

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 9, as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, 09/615,726, titled "A METHOD AND MECHANISM FOR THE CREATION, MAINTENANCE, AND COMPARISON OF SEMANTIC ABSTRACTS," filed July 13, 2000, and is related to which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent No. 6,108,619, titled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SEMANTIC CHARACTERIZATION," issued August 22, 2000, and ~~to~~ of co-pending U.S. Patent application Serial No. 09/512,963, titled "CONSTRUCTION, MANIPULATION, AND COMPARISON OF A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL SEMANTIC SPACE," filed February 25, 2000, all commonly assigned.